



Congress of the United
States
House of
Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Matt Cartwright
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Cartwright,

Thank you for your support of the Economic Development Agency's (EDA) Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (RTIH) Program. As you begin preparing the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, we urge you to fund the RTIH program at \$1,548,500,000, as specified in the President's Budget Request.

For decades, federal investment in research and development (R&D) dramatically decreased, thereby threatening our position as a global leader of innovation. In fact, despite the clear need for investment, federal R&D investment fell to 0.61% of U.S. GDP, the lowest level since 1955. Passage of the CHIPS and Science Act in 2022 provided a much-needed shift in our prioritization of federal investment in innovation and we are poised to reestablish our nation's global competitiveness. This landmark legislation also recognized the need to ensure a regional distribution of federal dollars, particularly in areas of the U.S. with great potential for technological advancements, but historically low investments. To achieve this goal, the RTIH program established in the CHIPS and Science Act will create 20 geographically distributed hubs aimed at spurring innovative industries by leveraging universities, federal laboratories, and the private sector. These Tech Hubs will focus on technology development, job creation, and expanding the United States innovation capacity.

Full funding for RTIH is essential to unlocking the United States innovation economy. By fostering public-private partnerships that harness the wells of talent in communities across the nation, we can create regional innovation hubs that promote national competitiveness while creating good-paying jobs.

In 2022, \$500 million was appropriated to the EDA for the RTIH program. This funding enables the EDA to begin the process of designating Tech Hubs, as well as awarding initial funding for Tech Hub strategy development and implementation for three hubs. Supporting full funding in FY24 is critically

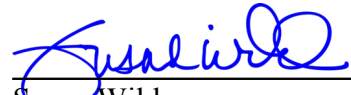
important and will enable the EDA to expand the program to include all 20 Tech Hubs authorized in the CHIPS and Science Act. These additional Tech Hubs are required to be distributed geographically throughout the country, bringing the benefits of innovation to every American community.

We hope that in crafting the FY24 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, you will consider robust funding for the Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program consistent with the President's FY24 Budget Request. Thank you for your consideration of my request.

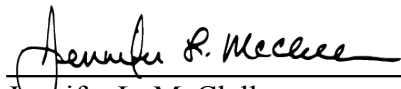
Sincerely,



Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress



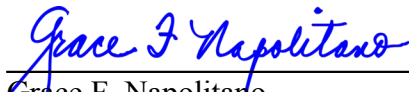
Susan Wild
Member of Congress



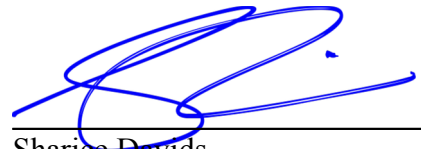
Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Sharice Davids
Member of Congress



Andy Kim
Member of Congress



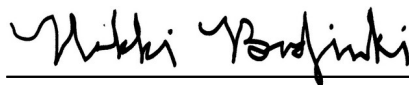
Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress



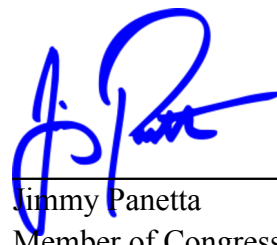
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Marie Gluesenkamp Perez
Member of Congress



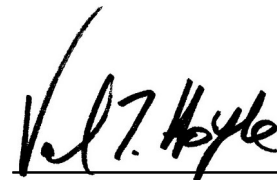
Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Jamaal Bowman
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



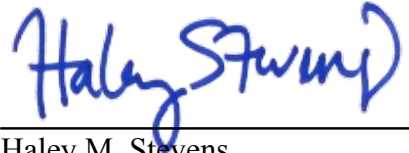
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



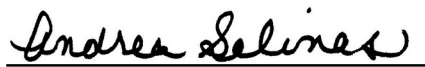
André Carson
Member of Congress



Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Andrea Salinas in black ink, featuring a stylized cursive script.

Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Richard E. Neal in black ink, featuring a stylized cursive script.

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress